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Redistricting Commissions - A Growing Trend

With passage of the Voters FIRST Act, California joined a growing number of states that create commissions to play a role in the once-a-decade process of drawing of legislative districts. California's commission will include 14 members – five Republicans, five Democrats and four from neither party – will be chosen by application/random selection process.

Twelve other states give a commission primary responsibility for approving redistricting plans.* Two states use commissions in an advisory role, submitting their plans to the Legislature for approval. Five states have commissions that act only if Legislatures fail to agree on a redistricting plan.

States with Commissions Primarily Responsible for Redistricting

State		Size of Commission Member Selection		
	Alaska	5 members	Appointed by Governor, Legislative leaders	
	Arizona	5 members	Appointed by Legislative leaders	
	Arkansas	3 members	Top state officials serve as members	
	Colorado	11 members	Appointed by Governor, Legislative, Judiciary	
	Hawaii	9 members	Appointed by Legislative leaders	
	Idaho	6 members	Appointed by Legislative and party leaders	
	Missouri	18 and 10 members	Governor selects from lists of party nominees	
	Montana	5 members	Appointed by Legislative leaders	
	New Jersey	10 members	Selected by party leaders	
	Ohio	5 members	Top state officials serve	
	Pennsylvania	5 members	Appointed by Legislative leaders	
	Washington	5 members	Appointed by Legislative leaders	

States with Advisory Commissions - Plans Require Legislative Approval

State	Size of Commission Member Selection
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Maine 15 members Appointed by Legislative and party leaders Vermont 5 members Appointed by Governor and Chief Justice

(more)



States with "Backup Commissions" - in Case of Redistricting Stalemates

Size of Commission Member Selection	
9 members	Appointed by Legislative leaders
8 members	Appointed by Legislative leaders
5 members	Top state officials serve as members
3 members	Top state officials serve as members
5 members	Top state officials serve as members
	9 members 8 members 5 members 3 members

^{*}Source: National Conference of State Legislatures, <u>www.ncsl.org</u>

For more information on California's Citizens Redistricting Commission, visit www.WeDrawtheLines.ca.gov.

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